



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicant:** Roy A. Black *et al.*  
**Title:** CRYSTALLINE TNF- $\alpha$ -CONVERTING  
ENZYME AND USES THEREOF  
**Appl. No.:** 10/057,321  
**Filing Date:** 09/24/2001  
**Examiner:** Kathleen M. Kerr  
**Art Unit:** 1652

**AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Final Office Action dated December 16, 2004, concerning the above-referenced patent application. Since the response is timely filed, relative to the due date of March 16, 2004, applicants believe that no additional fees are required. If this is incorrect, the Commissioner is authorized to make appropriate charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

**Amendments to the Specification** are noted on page 2 of this document.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 11 of this document.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 13 of this document.

Please amend the application as follows: